NOTE XIII.

ON THREE NEW SQUIRRELS.

1. ON A NEW SQUIRREL, SCIURUS ROSENBERGII, FROM THE SANGHI-ISLANDS.

BY

Dr. F. A. JENTINK.

Dec. 1878.

According to Mr. von Rosenberg, the untired explorer of the Moluccan region, the Sanghi-islands are inhabited by the following Mammalia, viz: bats, mice, one species of Sus and none but one species of Sciurus.

In the Leyden Museum there are now twelve specimens of the latter species, which has hitherto remained undescribed: they were collected by von Rosenberg (1864) and Hoedt (1865 and 1866).

Von Rosenberg states, that the Sanghi Fauna agrees very well with the North-Celebian Fauna. From the latter locality several well defined species of Squirrels are known and à priori this might lead us to expect that the Sanghi-species was allied to one of the North-Celebian Squirrels. It is therefore very interesting that the species in question is quite different from the Celebian species.

The following species of Sciurus have been brought from North-Celebes by different travellers: *Sciurus erythromelas*, *Schlegelii*, *leucomus*, *rubriventer* and *murinus*. According to Gray 1) *Sciurus ephippium* (Verreaux) is also found in Cele-

1) Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist. 1867, p. 276.

bes, however he does not state the exact part of that Island, where it was collected. The first two species differ from our animal by having a white lateral streak on each side of the body; *Sciurus leucomus* by having a white patch behind the ears; *Sciurus rubriventer* by the red-coloured belly and larger size; *Sciurus murinus* by its naked ears, grey coloured belly and smaller size; *Sciurus ephippium*, which belongs to the largest species of Squirrels in existence, by its size.

Our species being new to science, I propose to name it in honour of its discoverer,

Sciurus Rosenbergii, n. sp.

General size and colour as in *Sciurus Steerii* [1]) from Balabac (Philippine-islands), but the latter is larger and has the tail shorter than the body and head; finally there are little differences in colouration. General tint of the upperparts of the body and outside of legs rusty brown; the colour of the underparts is much brighter. In the second specimen of Günther's *Sciurus Steerii* from Palawan, o. c., p. 736, the lower parts are pure white.

Hairs of the back with a broad black ring towards the tip.

Tail darker than the back, each long hair is embellished with a broad black ring and a very long black tip. In the *Sciurus Steerii* from Balabac the hairs of the tail are of moderate length and without black tips, o. c., p. 736.

In-and outside of the ears closely covered with hairs which do not form a pencil.

Whiskers black and not projecting beyond the tips of the ears.

Toes and fingers and also the fore and hind-feet closely covered with hairs on the upper parts, the hairs being here dusky near the base with silvery tips.

Cutting-teeth bright orange.

---

1) P. Z. S. L. 1876, p. 735, pl. LXIX.

I cannot give the lenght of the skull, all the occipitals being smashed.

	m. m.
Head and body	190
Tail with tuft	245
Tail without tuft	180
Ears with hairs	17.5
Hind foot	42
Length upper molar series	8
Length of nasalia	12.5
Distance between incisor and first upper molar	9
» » » » » lower »	5

Hab: Sanghi-islands, Siao (v. Rosenberg, Hoedt).

2. ON A SQUIRREL FROM NUSA-KAMBANGAN.

In making a preliminary catalogue on the Squirrels in the collection of the Leyden Museum, I found a specimen which several years ago was distinguished by Temminck as belonging to a new species and has hitherto remained undescribed. This specimen was labelled by Temminck, *Sciurus Diardii*, »Esquisses zoologiques sur la côte de Guiné", so it seems that Temminck intended to describe our species in the above mentioned work. I do not know why he may have omitted it to do so. However the statement may suffice, that neither Temminck nor any other author after him have published this species.

Our Squirrel was collected in Nusa-Kambangan, a very small island situated off Tjilatjap, close to the South coast of Java.

As our knowledge respecting the distribution of the different species of the genus Sciurus in Java is extremely deficient, I cannot state which are the exact species inhabiting Tjilatjap and environs. But the following species are found in Java, according to Schlegel and Müller 1):

---

1) Verhandelingen over de Natuurlijke Geschiedenis etc. 1839—44, p. 92 et sqq.

Sciurus bicolor, *nigrovittatus (plantani)*, *melanotis* and *insignis*. 1)

In comparing our species with any of these, it is evident that *Sciurus bicolor* differs from that species by the larger size and different colouration; *Sciurus nigrovittatus* and *vittatus* by having a lateral streak on each side of the body; *Sciurus melanotis* by its smaller size, by having a tuft of elongated hairs on the ears and a longitudinal streak on the face; *Sciurus insignis* by having the back embellished with three black longitudinal streaks.

Sciurus Diardii, Temminck in litt.

Fur above rusty coloured, the underparts of the body being yellowish white. Hairs of the head, back, sides of the body and outside of legs black near the base, higher on rusty, with a very small black tip. Several entirely black hairs are intermixed with these.

The hairs of the tail are very long rusty, with a subterminal black ring and black tip. Hairs of chin, throat, chest, belly and inside of legs entirely yellowish white.

Whiskers quite long, black.

Ears short, rounded, with scarce hairs.

Cutting-teeth yellow. The end of the tail is wanting. Measurements of the only specimen we received, which is an adult:

	m. m.
Head and body	230
Ear	14
Hind foot	44
Length of nasalia	13
Length upper molar series	9
Distance between incisor and first upper molar	11
» » » » » lower »	6

Hab: Nusa-Kambangan (e coll. Blüme).

---

1) Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist. 1867, p. 281, Gray states that *Sciurus tenuis* in the British Museum is Horsfield's type from Java and that also this species occurs in Java. But Horsfield, Zool. Res. in Java, 1824, states that his specimen (i. e. the type) was a native of Singapore (!) and at that time in the Museum of the East India Company!

3. ON A NEW SQUIRREL FROM SALEYER.

Gray [1]) has described and figured a new species of Squirrel from Borneo (Sarawak), under the name »*Sciurus macrotis*", but he did not make mention of the remarkable upper cutting-teeth. It seems therefore that Gray had overlooked that they present longitudinal grooves [2]). In his »Synopsis of the Asiatic Squirrels in the collection of the British Museum" [3]) he has corrected his mistake by erecting a new genus »*Rheithrosciurus*" with only one species, the above mentioned »*macrotis*". And now Gray states" »the grooving of the teeth (lege: of the upper cutting-teeth) is a pecularity not observed in any other Sciuridae."

Therefore it is very interesting that we received this year three Squirrels from the Saleyer-island, which specimens present the same grooved character of the upper cutting-teeth.

I found these specimens in a large number of Mammalia and Birds collected by Mr. Teysmann in different parts of the Malayan Archipelago. Our species differs from

---

[1]) P. Z. S. L. 1856, p. 341, pl. XLVI.

[2]) Generally Gray's descriptions are very short and incomplete, and aspecially they are very cursorily in the above mentioned description in the „Proceedings" as well as in the „Synopses of Asiatic, African and American Squirrels in the collection of the British Museum", Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist. 1867, p. 271 and sqq., p. 323 and sqq. and p. 415 and sqq. Certainly I could cite several numbers of ten inaccuracies and mistakes, but I need not to do this, for every one who occupies himself with the study of the Squirrels will agree with me about what I assert.

It may suffy for the rest to compare Gray's descriptions of the „*macrotis*".

P. Z. S, L. 1856.	*Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.* 1867.
A broad *white* streak on the upperpart of each side.	Lateral streaks, broad, *yellowish*.
Upper-part of the side with a broad *pale* streak.	
General colour *dark chestnut brown*.	General colour *brown*.
Tail with very long *white tipped* hairs.	Tail blackish, *whitish washed*.
Length 13, tail 11 inches (Tail therefore *shorter* than head and body).	Tail *as long* as the body and head.

[3]) Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist. 1867, p. 271.

Gray's »*macrotis*", by not having large ears with a pencil of elongated hairs, by its different colouration, shorter tail and finally by its small size (Gray's »*macrotis*" measures 24 inches = 608 mm.).

The species also being new for science, I propose to name it

Sciurus (Rheithrosciurus) microtis, n. sp.

n. i. kalabientien.

This species agrees with *Sciurus nigrovittatus* 1) in the distribution of the external marks.

General colour tawny blackish. On the back the hairs are black with two tawny rings; a few ones are entirely black. On the upperpart of the head and outside of legs, feet and hands the hairs have only one tawny ring. On each side of the body is a tawny lateral streak, consisting of black hairs with long tawny tips. The sides of the body present a darker colour than the upperparts of the back, each hair being here black with a very minute tawny tip. Chin, throat, chest, belly and inside of legs with a beautiful reddish tint, produced by the long reddish tawny coloured tips of the brownish black hairs.

Tail shorter than head and body. The hairs are here black with three tawny rings; underparts of the tail near the root and circumference of anus more reddish. A circle around the eyes feeble reddish coloured. In-and outside of the very short ears closely covered with short reddish brown hairs.

---

1) This species is the *Sciurus plantani* in perfect state of colouration, as clearly is exposed in „Verhandelingen over de Natuurlijke Geschiedenis der Ned. O. I. bezittingen, 1839—44, p. 95", and as can be stated by the large collection in the Leyden Museum. I don't know how many specimens of the species in question there were in the British Museum when Gray wrotes his „Synopsis of Asiatic Squirrels", but I am sure that, if Gray had before studied our collection of about sixty specimens. he would not have admitted in the above mentioned Synopsis, the *nigrovittatus* and *platani* (lege *plantani*) as two different species.

Whiskers and bristles on the cheeks long and black.

The well arched claws black with white points.

Cutting-teeth orange; upper ones longitudinally grooved.

Three specimens.	m. m.
Head and body	230
Tail with tuft	200
Ear	14.5
Hind foot	47
Length upper molar series	9.5
Distance between incisor and first upper molar	10
» » » » » lower »	5

Hab: Saleyer (Teysmann).